

Commissioners Meeting  
January 16, 2007 2:20 pm

Meeting called to order by President Rininger. Commissioners Rininger, Logsdon and Leiberling, and Board Attorney Lueken were present.

Minutes

December 27, 2006 and January 2, 2007 minutes. Leiberling made the motion to approve. Logsdon seconded. All in favor.

Additional Appropriations

Sheriff Lindsey stated that at budget time last year the council recommended that the Sheriff come back and have the money appropriated from the cum cap fund. The prior sheriff ordered the vehicles and they will be in by the end of February. Lueken stated that purchases exceed \$25,000 and need to be approved by the commissioners. Logsdon asked Lindsey if the vehicles are needed. Lindsey said yes. Logsdon made the motion to approve the purchase of the 2 vehicles and request the additional appropriation from the cum cap fund in the amount of \$45,709. Leiberling seconded. All in favor.

Road School

Road School is coming up for the Commissioners on March 6 – 8. Reservations need to be made.

County Legislative Day

The AIC County Legislative Day is February 13 – 14.

February Meeting Dates

Lueken asked that the meeting scheduled for February 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:45 am be moved to Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:45 am, due to a conflict with his court schedule. Logsdon made a motion that the second meeting date of the month, scheduled for February 20<sup>th</sup> be changed to Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:45 am. Leiberling seconded. All in favor.

Senior Center Update

Mayor Packer stated the total cost of the project will now be \$485,051, which will be covered with the grant and the city contribution of \$100,000. Packer originally asked for a county contribution of \$67,000, but now with the current cost estimate of the project the city should be able to cover the cost. Packer does request that some of that money be used to cover start up costs. The school board and the city have come to an agreement to apply the \$100,000 contribution by the city toward rent. Logsdon asked if county residents outside of Rockport would be able to use the facility and the programs. Packer said absolutely, the projection for the number of recipients for this project is 3,156.

Rainbow Plaza Ornamental Lights

Marty Frederick, Public Improvement Project Coordinator of Vectren discussed the rates for ornamental lights that could be installed at Rainbow Plaza. A fixed rate of \$85.65 per light per year for 4 lights for a 10 year agreement will be a total of \$3,426. The installation cost is estimated to be \$14,000, depending on the location and the amount of line needed. Lueken questioned the 10 year term and the liability of repair. Frederick stated that Vectren does own the lights and will assume most of the responsibility. Leiberling made a motion to request \$19,000 out of the Cum Cap Fund. Logsdon seconded. Vote 2 to 1 with Logsdon opposed. The motion passes.

Luce Township Regional Sewer Board

LTRSD Attorney Robinson stated the board is here to ask for help. In December of 2000 the county authorized a study that showed the need for the sewer system in Luce Township. The system is designed; the only hold up is that they have only 50% of the easements signed. LTRSD board is asking the Commissioners to sign a resolution encouraging the residents of Luce Township to get their easements in. The immediate problem is that improvements to the Luce Elementary School have already been delayed. Superintendent Mike Robinson stated that the school board has planned for the last 5 or 6 years to renovate the elementary schools. The project has been delayed due to the problems with the current septic system. The long range problem is the declining enrollment in the elementary school and the declining population. There is a concern about putting an investment into a school when there is no infrastructure to support new homes or home sales to at least keep the population steady or increasing. He made an appeal to the commissioners to approve the resolution and encourage the people of Luce Township to sign their easement to help insure the future of the school. LTRSD member Mayor Packer stated that she has discussed this issue with other entities and all agreed that they would prefer a wastewater plant over any

other alternative because it is the cleanest and most efficient. LTRSD member Wayne Bond proposed a local sewer system to solve the problem immediately. His proposal was for an Algae wheel system, which he says will be about a \$1,000 per customer less than the proposed system and the maximum monthly fee will be \$40 per customer. He also stated that since engineer fees are based on the size of the project, it is not in the best interest of the engineers to support a less costly system. Attorney Robinson responded by saying that almost all of the engineer fees have already been paid. LTRSD does not have the money to go to another system. The engineers have been involved in several area systems. The grinder system is the standard system when a gravity system cannot be used. Bill Tinsley of the Luce Township Remonstrance Committee asked that the board not impose any additional hardships on the community of Luce Township. Tinsley stated that the community does not want their money put into this project because they have not been given a cost estimate of what their monthly bills will be, only an idea. Rininger stated he remembered hearing there was an estimated cost per user. The Commonwealth engineer, Richard Farmer, said it would be \$63 to \$68 per month. Norman Feige stated that currently the septic system at the elementary school is functional and the current kitchen is functional and with a declining population there is no justification for the system being replaced. He also stated that the school corporation has not looked into using the adjacent land to the elementary school. LTRSD Board Vice President Jim Stevenson stated that everything said today has been said before. The board has investigated all of the alternatives and eliminated them all for various reasons. The system the board chose was originally an alternative system, but has been used and tested. The board has relied on the advice of professionals. He said they have researched all of the systems over again and they always come back to the currently proposed system. It is the best system for Luce Township. He stated that people have told him that they have not signed but if it comes down in front of their house, they will sign. He said that the board is at a cross roads. The board is getting tired of the ridicule. He feels it is imperative that the commissioners show their support for this project. Leiberling stated that with the amount of money the county has spent we need to make it work, but he does not know what the answer is. Stevenson said that if he felt the board was getting bad information from the engineers, he would be the first to stand up and say so. Logsdon said this is the first time he has been given any information. He would like to have some information to read about the project. Attorney Robinson stated that the information in the packet shows that the recommendation from BLA was to go to a regional system. He also stated that the LTRSD will not put in a system that is going to cost the users more than \$65 a month, because they know that the people of Luce Township cannot afford it. Logsdon made a motion to table this issue. Leiberling seconded. All in favor.

#### Ameresco

Auditor Shelton reported for Pursley of Ameresco that Johnson Control has given Ameresco and Dillingham passwords to access the units put in place. The over spray issues have also been resolved. The project should be complete by the end of February.

#### Farm Ground Lease

Two requests were made to farm 15 acres of ground owned by the county located west of Rockport in Section 21, one from Eric Sermersheim and one from Hurm Farms. Currently we are receiving a rental fee of \$450 annually. Logsdon made a motion to table this issue and request a bid from each of the farmers for the use of the land by the next meeting. Leiberling seconded. All in favor.

#### Homeland Security Pass Through Grant

Perdue explained the federal government gave to the State of Indiana grant money to be given to the counties to be used for the Citizens Corp. Spencer County is one of 13 counties which has organized the Citizens Corp. The counties that did not use the money had to return it to the state. If the money is not used by the state it has to be sent back to the federal government. The state has decided to use the money on advertisement and back packs to be used by the citizens corps. The only way the state could do this legally was to fund it through a county, and they asked Spencer County. Logsdon asked if it would require any extra labor on the county's part and Perdue said it would not. Logsdon made a motion to approve the grant. Leiberling seconded. All in favor.

#### Engineer Report

Bridge #292 - Engineer Holstein discussed Bridge #292. The abutment is sliding out. Some stabilization work was done in 2004 but it is now moving again. It was inspected in by United in November as part of the county's bridge inspection contract and it has moved more since then. United returned and issued a report with 3

options. Option 1 is to do nothing. The road is currently closed due to the problems. Options 2 is total reconstruction of the east abutment. Option 3 is to drive piling in behind the abutment and tie the piling to the abutment to keep it from sliding out any further. The recommendation of United is to go with Option 3. Highway Superintendent Painter and Holstein are concerned that it would only be a temporary fix. Currently no one lives on the road. Logsdon stated that since no one lives on the road, not many use it and the commissioners do not have any cost estimates, this does not require action right now. Holstein said she would work with United to get cost estimates and have them by the next meeting.

CEDIT Road Plan - Holstein stated she has started road inspections on CEDIT roads and will have a proposed CEDIT plan to the commissioners around March.

Huffman Mill Bridge - She has left several messages with the federal highway department regarding the application for the Huffman Mill Bridge and has received no response. Last thing heard from Region 15 was that the federal highway hoped to have everything done by now.

Base Road Project - Holstein asked if the Commissioners still wanted to meet with BLA and discuss the Base Road project. Logsdon stated he would like to have an informational meeting with them either before or after a scheduled meeting.

Logsdon asked that at the next meeting Holstein discuss the status of the Orchard Road project.

Logsdon made a motion to take a 5 minute recess. Leiberling seconded. All in favor.

### Highway

Highway Superintendent Painter discussed the 4-wheelers on River Road under the Owensboro bridge. The 4-wheelers have dug ruts in the road and all of the fields, making it impassable by cars. He called the Sheriff's department to check it out.

Assistant Highway Superintendent Wirthwein presented a break down of the current payment schedule through 2010 and a list of proposed equipment purchases totaling \$371,000. He is requesting the use of \$100,000 of the Major Moves money for this year, plus \$21,000 out of the 2007 budget, be used for a down payment toward the purchase of the equipment, while financing the balance of \$250,000. Then also using \$100,000 out of the 2008 Major Moves money as the payment toward the debt in 2008. The balance would then be paid in 3 yearly payments of \$65,470 in 2009, 2010, and 2011. Logsdon asked if the Highway Department considered this to be their highest priority, excluding roads and bridges. Wirthwein said yes. Leiberling made a motion to request the additional appropriation for the Highway and recommend to the Council that the \$100,000 come from the Major Moves money. Logsdon seconded. All in favor.

### Legal

Old EMS - Attorney Lueken discussed the invitation to quote for the old EMS building. A visit to the site with Joe King will be required, along with references, prior jobs, and liability insurance. Quotes will be opened at the February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Spencer County Public Safety Building – Al Perdue described the grant process with FEMA and process of holding public hearings. Logsdon stated that even though plans have been drawn up, no commitment has been made. Tom Schipp of Universal Design presented the potential plans for the building which meets FEMA regulations and grant requirements to withstand earthquakes and tornadoes. The proposal includes offices for EMA, EMS, 911 Dispatch, Extension Services, Health Department, Veterans Administration, Plan Commission, Building Inspector, and Coroner, as well as a garage to house the emergency vehicles, a vault, a safe room, meeting rooms and future office space. The building is proposed to be located at the corner of old 231 and Highway 70. In the event of a disaster, using FEMA calculations of allowing 5 square feet per person, 300 people could be housed. During a tornado, 1,000 people could comfortably be protected from the storm. Logsdon made a motion to sign the Resolution #2007-1 Authorizing Application Submission. Leiberling seconded. All in favor. Logsdon made a motion to sign the Work Order / Contract for Professional Services with Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission. Leiberling seconded. All in favor.

IKON Agreement

Clerk Jochim presented an agreement for the Commissions to sign that would enable all county offices to purchase equipment from IKON at wholesale pricing. Leibering made a motion to approve. Logsdon seconded. All in favor.

Logsdon made a motion to adjourn. Logsdon seconded. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 5:08 pm.

Board of Commissioners,

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President	
Attest:	
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Cindy Shelton, Auditor	
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